



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

brought about by declaring that the spectacles on his nose were a fetish that would cure people of their evil ways. He does not see that the sudden tearing-down of native faith and institutions uproots the moral system connected with them, and causes great masses to degenerate who have not the advantage of his personal example. He admits that the Mpongwe, among whom he has been working, are "hurrying to extinction," but he blames this on the coast trader and administrator, who in turn blame the missionary, the fact being that each of them is to be blamed for not co-operating.

It is disappointing, and much to be regretted, that missionaries have not profited more from the criticisms of their work by modern scholars, and that they should not have shown more of a disposition to follow the trend of modern religious thought in the direction of greater emphasis upon service.

JEROME DOWD

UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

The New History. Essays Illustrating the Modern Historical Outlook. By JAMES HARVEY ROBINSON. New York: Macmillan, 1912. Pp. 266.

Of this collection of eight essays, all but one have previously been printed, although not precisely as they appear here. Six present Professor Robinson's conception of the modern point of view in history, and two are contributions to historical knowledge. Professor Robinson's first contention is that the selection of historical facts in books intended for the public has previously rested on a wrong basis. He would have history shake off everything not vitally connected with present-day life, and devote itself to furnishing a background for the problems of the common man. In the second place he would have history brought into closer touch with other sciences—anthropology, political economy, psychology, sociology, etc. He points out how much history has already gained from the natural sciences, and urges the advantage of closer alliance. Thirdly, he recurs constantly to the idea that the period of whose history we have a record is but a moment in the whole course of human development, that the pace of world-progress is growing constantly more rapid, that it is time to co-operate to direct and control this progress, and that it is the main function of history to furnish a sense of direction.

Professor Robinson's style is brilliant and interesting. He is not, however, a convincing controversialist, owing to his habit of setting up a

man of straw to overthrow instead of dealing with facts as they are. Actually the gulf between modern historical production and what Professor Robinson wishes is not so great as he represents it. If he had been content simply to express the modern point of view instead of presenting it as new and in violent contrast with the work of his contemporaries, his major views could scarcely have failed of very general acceptance. In other words, his views are on the whole more sound than new, though the majority of his own profession would probably claim that some of those that are new are not altogether sound. No one, however, would deny that his historical essays on the "Fall of Rome" and the "Principles of 1789" exhibit a thorough mastery of the most advanced historical method, and are contributions to an understanding of their respective fields.

CARL RUSSELL FISH

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

Assistance publique et charité privée. Par MAURICE BEAUFRETON.

With a foreword by FERDINAND DREYFUS. In "Encyclopédie internationale d'assistance, prévoyance, hygiène sociale et démographie." Paris: Giard & Brière, 1911. Pp. xii+394. Fr. 4.

The problem of the relations of public relief and private charity is the theme of M. Beaufreton's volume. The first chapter deals with the present crisis of private charity in France and the running fire of criticism to which it has been subjected. He concludes that the crisis is one of transformation, charity is becoming an art and a science. The next two chapters deal with the rôle of public relief and private beneficence. The problem of the relations between public relief and private beneficence is then discussed at length. Although in practice each form of aid has its own proper domain, the question of reciprocal co-operation is important because individuals seeking relief go from one to the other. The question of the pre-eminence of official relief over private charity is disputed. Without doubt society has the obligation of helping the indigent but it does not necessarily follow that the social power ought to execute this social obligation. If the need is relieved by private initiative, for example, the social obligation is discharged and the state has not interfered directly. So that far from substituting official aid entirely in the place of private aid, public relief should interfere when